

DH2930, sec. 2159: (Un)Common Read (Fall 2018)
 T | Period 10 (5:10PM – 6:00PM), Hume 119

THE GALILEO AFFAIR

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Course Overview

One of the most celebrated moments in the history of science is the trial of Galileo Galilei for his support of heliocentrism. Galileo Galilei is the Italian scientist and philosopher whose contributions to astronomy, physics, and scientific instruments and methodology in general were so numerous and crucial that, of the several founders of modern science, he is usually singled out as the “Father of Modern Science”.

In 1633 the Roman Inquisition condemned Galileo Galilei for heresy. The trial was the end of a process which began two decades earlier (in 1613) and included another series of Inquisition proceedings in 1615–1616. The condemnation of 1633 marks the end of Galileo’s trial, but it sets off a new controversy *about* the Galileo affair, its causes, its implications, and its lessons. The phrase “Galileo Affair”, therefore, means the historical developments of 1613–1633, and the long-lasting debate that ensued from those events.

Finocchiaro’s book contains a collection of the essential texts and documents about both the key events and the key issues. To facilitate the independent reading, interpretation, and critical evaluation of the documents, students will be provided with an overview of the events and issues of the Galileo Affair, together with some of its historical background and a sketch of a philosophical approach to its study. Reference and comparisons with contemporary antiscientific approaches will be a subject of discussion.

Course Outline

Classes will combine student-centered activities with brief introductions to the day’s reading. Accordingly, you will be expected to have read the assigned readings and be prepared to comment and participate in meaningful discussions.

W1	Galileo: A Very Short Introduction	47-54; 67-69	08/28
	Letters: Castelli to Galileo Galileo to Castelli Cardinal Bellarmine to Foscarini		

W2	Galileo's Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina	87-100	09/04
W3	Galileo's Letter to the Grand Duchess Christina	100-118	09/11
W4	I. The Earlier Inquisition Proceedings (1615-1616) Lorini's Complaint Consultant's Report on the Letter to Castelli Caccini's Deposition Ximenes' Deposition Attavanti's Deposition	134-146	09/18
W5	II. The Earlier Inquisition Proceedings (1615-1616) Consultants' Report on Copernicanism Inquisition Minutes Special Injunction Inquisition Minutes Decree of the Index Cardinal Bellarmine's Certificate	146-153	09/25
W6	I. Miscellaneous documents (1618-1633) Galileo to Archduke Leopold of Austria Correction of Copernicus's On the Revolutions Anonymous Complaint About The Assayer Guiducci to Galileo	198-206	10/02
W7	In-class quiz 1		10/09
W8	II. Miscellaneous documents (1618-1633) The Vatican Secretary to the Tuscan Ambassador Galileo to the Tuscan Secretary of State The Vatican Secretary to the Florentine Inquisitor The Florentine Inquisitor to the Vatican Secretary The Vatican Secretary to the Florentine Inquisitor The Tuscan Ambassador to Galileo	206-214	10/16
W9	The Dialogue Preface to the Dialogue (1632) Ending of the Dialogue (1632)	214-218	10/23
W10	Special Commission Report on the Dialogue Cardinal Barberini to the Florentine Nuncio Galileo to Diodati	218-226	10/30

W11	Galileo's First Deposition Oreggi's Report on the Dialogue Commissary General to Cardinal Barberini	227-262	11/06
W12	Galileo's Second Deposition Galileo's Third Deposition Galileo's Defense	277-281	11/20
W13	Final Report to the Pope Galileo's Fourth Deposition Sentence	281-291	11/27
W14	Galileo's Abjuration (22 June 1633) The final years	292-293	12/04

In-class quiz 2 (online)

Texts and Resources

Required

Finocchiaro, M. A., Galilei, G., & Galilei, G. (1991). *The Galileo affair: A documentary history*. New York: Leslie B. Adams, Jr.

Recommended

Drake, S. (2001). *Galileo: A very short introduction*. Oxford: Oxford University Press. (UF ONLINE see <http://uf.catalog.fcla.edu/permalink.jsp?20UF035373761>)

Galilei, G., Drake, S., Sobel, D., Einstein, A. (2013). *Dialogue concerning the two chief world systems, Ptolemaic and Copernican*. London: Folio Society.

In addition, there are some readings which will be placed in canvas during the semester.

Course Requirements

1. Attendance, Class Participation & Homework Preparation(40%)

Attendance & Class Participation: Attendance *and informed participation at all class meetings is required*. This means that you show up to class on a regular basis and complete your assignments on time. The entire success of the course is that you *get involved, get interested and get motivated* to the history of a world which in many ways produced our own.

Requirements for class attendance and make-up exams, assignments, and other work in this course are consistent with university policies that can be found at:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/attendance.aspx>

1. Class begins promptly. A student is counted as being tardy if he/she comes in after class has started.
2. A student is counted as being absent if he/she fails to attend the class.
3. The student's final grade will be deducted by 1% from his/her final grade for each unexcused absence after the second unexcused absence of the semester.

Should you miss a class for any reason, you are responsible for informing yourself as to what was covered in class. Except in the case of certified illness or other UF accepted excuse, there will be no make-up option for missed exams/assignments. Where possible, makes-ups should be arranged prior to absence. Alternatively, students should contact me on their return to classes. Homework Preparation: you should complete the reading or viewing by the assigned class period and be ready to discuss it.

The use of cell phones is prohibited. Phones must be silenced and kept in your backpack. Laptops and other electronic devices are to be used for notetaking purposes only. Failure to comply with these requirements will result in a greatly reduced participation grade.

2. In-class Quizzes (20%)

There will be 2 non-cumulative quizzes during the semester. These will consist of multiple choice and/or short paragraph answers and are scheduled for October 9 and December 4 (online). Further details will be provided in class closer to the exam dates.

3. Final Project (40%)

For this class, you will write an essay answering to the following question:

As for nowadays, what are the major forces a scientist has to deal with when s/he strives to be an expert and a trustworthy defender of science?

In addressing this issue, you will provide an example about an individual who promotes sound science and evidence on a matter of public interest, facing difficulty or hostility in doing so.

Individuals can be selected for any kind of public activity in any of the following areas:

- * Addressing misleading information about any scientific issue (including social science and medicine).
- * Bringing sound evidence to bear in a public or policy debate.
- * Helping people to make sense of a complex scientific issue.

Your essay should be 3–4 typed pages long (double-spaced, one-inch margins). It will not due until December 12 (11:59pm, to be emailed to saraclassics@ufl.edu).

Work on this final project will be divided into 3 parts: selection of the topic (due October 16, 10%), preliminary outline & bibliography (November 20, 5%), and the essay (due December 12, 25%). Your work must be submitted on the due date unless you have asked for and received permission to extend the deadline or unless you have a valid excuse. Essays will be graded with regard not only to content and organization, but also to presentation, grammar, spelling, and punctuation. Your research should be documented accurately. Secondary sources, whether textual or internet based, must be acknowledged. Unattributed use of sources will earn you an E for the course. Papers must be emailed to saraclassics@ufl.edu by 11:59pm on December 12.

Break-down of final grade

Attendance, Class Participation & Homework Preparation 40%

2 in-class Quizzes 20%

Final Essay 40%

Grading Scale

A. 100–93 (4.0)	C. 76–73 (2.0)
A- 92–90 (3.67)	C- 72–70 (1.67)
B+ 89–87 (3.33)	D+ 69–67 (1.33)
B. 86–83 (3.0)	D. 66–63 (1.0)
B- 82–80 (2.67)	D- 62–60 (0.67)
C+ 79–77 (2.33)	E 59– (0)

Note: A grade of C- is not a qualifying grade for major, minor, Gen Ed, or College Basic distribution credit. For further information on UF's Grading Policy, see:

<https://catalog.ufl.edu/ugrad/current/regulations/info/grades.aspx>

<https://student.ufl.edu/minusgrades.html>

Classroom Accommodation

Students with disabilities requesting accommodations must first register with the Disability Resource Center by providing appropriate documentation. Once registered, students will receive an accommodation letter to present to the instructor. Students with disabilities should follow this procedure as early as possible in the semester.

dso.ufl.edu/drc (352) 392 8565

Evaluate your Instructor

Students should provide feedback on the quality of instruction in this course by completing online evaluations at evaluations.ufl.edu. The University will announce specific times at the end of the semester for evaluation. Students may view summary results of these assessments at:

evaluations.ufl.edu/results

Honor Code

Familiarize yourself with the University of Florida Student Honor Code and obey it always. You can find the Student Honor Code online at:

dso.ufl.edu/sccr/process/student-conduct-honor-code

Counseling and Wellness

Students who face difficulties completing the course or need counseling or urgent help should call the Counseling and Wellness Center. Do not wait until the end of the semester for help.

counseling.ufl.edu

Important Dates

October 9 (in class) Quiz 1

October 16, Topic Selection

November 20, Preliminary Outline & Bibliography

December 4, (in class) Quiz 2

December 12, 11:59pm Final Project (to be emailed to saraclassics@ufl.edu)

No classes

September 4